



City of Woburn Massachusetts

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Scott D. Galvin
Mayor

Mayor Scott Galvin is pleased to announce the completion of the Woburn Fire Headquarters. The state-of-the-art facility was built on a 3.5-acre site at Forest Park, which includes a 27,000 square foot facility that houses ambulance and fire services, and a 6,800 square foot maintenance/mechanics building. A dedication ceremony will be held on site, Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 11:00 am.

The new Headquarters addresses health and safety for the firefighters and public, with separate zones for the operations side and the administrative/public side of the facility. Included on the operations side are decontamination facilities for personnel and equipment and spaces for onsite training including an exercise room, training tower, and mezzanine above the apparatus bay that provides space for ladder, ropes, and confined-space training. The facility also provides new living quarters, a meeting room for training and public use, and administrative offices.

In February 2019 as part of planned improvements to our fire department facilities the City of Woburn retained DiNisco Design to evaluate and develop a feasibility study and schematic design of new and renovated fire stations. This critical phase of the project concluded in January of 2020.

During this period of time The Building Committee (Mayor, Chief Kenton, Chief Adgate, Tom Quinn, Jay Corey, Tina Cassidy, Orazio DeLuca, Charlie Doherty, Mike Freeman and Marie Lingblom) held numerous meetings with the main goal of providing upgraded modern facilities for The WFD that would increase operational effectiveness and improve the level of service for residents and businesses of the City. A wide range of alternative sites and scenarios were evaluated to identify potential new sites and consolidation. The feasibility study examined planned commercial and residential development, population growth projections, response times, cost effective construction, and energy efficient healthy buildings.

The Building Committee selected a four-station configuration consisting of existing Station 1 (south end), Station 4 (west side), Station 5 (East) and a new headquarters with an operations /mechanics support building at the Forest Park site. This selection resulted in a reduction in the overall number of fire stations with a net improvement in fire response time coverage at the most economical overall cost estimate of \$30,000,000, including \$23,000,000 for the new headquarters and support building and \$7,000,000 for renovations to the remaining three stations.

The decision was made to complete early site work for the new project separately from the general contract construction of the building to take advantage of the seasonal weather, eliminate potential site work inflation, eliminate general contractor additional cost mark-ups and to have the site ready for construction in spring of 2021.

Before the early site work preparation could begin at the Forest Park site, the City obtained a special permit from the City Council and Article 97 legislation from the State Legislature. Site work commenced in August of 2020 and was completed in December of 2020. The general contract for construction of the Headquarters at the Forest Park site commenced in May of 2021 and was completed in April of 2023. The City is in the process of installing a 115 Kw solar system on the roof of the Headquarters.

To fund the \$23 million project, the City issued a twenty-year bond in June of 2021, taking advantage of our hard-earned AAA bond rating to receive an interest rate of 1.67%. The annual debt service will be approximately \$1,390,000 over twenty years.

Sincerely;



Mayor Scott Galvin
7/19/23